

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 17.

Please amend claims 1, 13 and 18 as follows:

1. (Amended) A liquid bleaching composition comprising an organic substance which forms a complex with a transition metal, the complex catalysing bleaching of a substrate by atmospheric oxygen without use of aldehydes, and a liquid carrier or solvent, wherein the composition allows at least 50% of any bleaching of the substrate to be effected by oxygen sourced from the air and is substantially devoid of peroxygen bleach or a peroxy-based or -generating bleach system.

13. (Amended) A method of bleaching a substrate comprising applying to the substrate a liquid bleaching composition that comprises an organic substance which forms a complex with a transition metal, the complex catalysing bleaching of the substrate by atmospheric oxygen without use of aldehydes, and a liquid carrier or solvent, wherein the composition allows at least 50% of any bleaching of the substrate to be effected by oxygen sourced from the air and is substantially devoid of peroxygen bleach or a peroxy-based or -generating bleach system.

18. (Amended) A method of treating a textile by contacting the textile with a liquid bleaching composition that comprises an organic substance which forms a complex with a transition metal, the complex catalysing bleaching by atmospheric oxygen without use of aldehydes, and a liquid carrier or solvent, wherein bleaching by the composition in a wash liquor is to at least 50% effected by oxygen sourced from the air and the composition is substantially devoid of peroxygen bleach or a peroxy-based or -generating bleach system, whereby the complex catalyses bleaching of the textile by atmospheric oxygen after the textile has been removed from the wash liquor and dried.

Please add new claims 22, 23 and 24 as follows:

22. A liquid composition according to claim 1 wherein the composition allows at least 90% of any bleaching of the substrate to be effected by oxygen sourced from the air.

23. A method according to claim 13 wherein the composition allows at least 90% of any bleaching of the substrate to be effected by oxygen sourced from the air.

24. A method according to claim 18 wherein bleaching by the composition in the wash liquor is to at least 90% effected by oxygen sourced from the air.